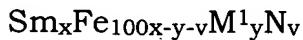


IN THE CLAIMS:

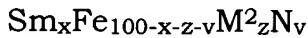
1. (canceled)

2. (previously presented) A flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material prepared by roll-quenching a molten alloy and nitriding the alloy powder thus obtained to form a magnet alloy; the magnet alloy having an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein  $\text{M}^1$  is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Hf and Zr;  $7 \leq x \leq 12$  and  $0.1 \leq y \leq 1.5$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ , a  $\text{TbCu}_7$  crystal structure, and flakes with a thickness of  $10\text{-}40\mu\text{m}$ .

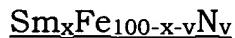
3. (previously presented) A flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material prepared by roll-quenching a molten alloy and nitriding the alloy powder thus obtained to form a magnet alloy; the magnet alloy having an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:



wherein  $\text{M}^2$  is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Si, Nb, Ti, Ga, Al, Ta and C;  $7 \leq x \leq 12$ ,  $0.1 \leq z \leq 1.0$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ , a  $\text{TbCu}_7$  crystal structure, and flakes with a thickness of  $10\text{-}40\mu\text{m}$ .

4 -7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A flaky, isotropic SmFeN powdery magnet material ~~according to claim 1, wherein the magnet powder has prepared by roll-quenching a molten alloy and nitriding the alloy powder thus obtained to form a magnet alloy; the magnet alloy having an alloy composition of the formula, by atomic %:~~



wherein  $7 < x \leq 12$  and  $0.5 \leq v \leq 20$ , a  $\text{TbCu}_7$  crystal structure, flakes with a thickness of  $10\text{-}40\mu\text{m}$ , and an intrinsic coercive force of 7 kOe or higher.

9-14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) A powdery magnet material according to Claim 2 wherein up to 30 at.% of Sm is substituted with Ce.

16. (previously presented) A powdery magnet material according to Claim 3 wherein up to 30 at.% of Sm is substituted with Ce.

17. (previously presented) A powdery magnet material according to Claim 2 wherein up to 30 at.% of Sm is substituted with a rare earth metal other than Ce.

18. (previously presented) A powdery magnet material according to  
Claim 3 wherein up to 30 at.% of Sm is substituted with a rare earth metal  
other than Ce.

19-20. (canceled)